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dexes have arrived, which is generally about a year and a half after the close of the session. The volumes are then made up and sent to the bindery. The index forms the last volume of each series.

As was stated in the beginning, the Papers by Command are printed in each series, but, as we subscribe for only one set, they are bound in the House of Lords series. If not called for by the House of Lords Index, the paper is inserted in its place in the House of Commons series. There are not more than three or four Papers by Command that are not bound in the House of Lords series. In the table of contents of those volumes of the House of Commons series from which the Papers by Command are missing a written reference in red ink is made to those volumes of the House of Lords series that contain the missing papers. A printed pink slip is also inserted in front of each table of contents in which such reference is made, explaining the reference. Because of these missing Papers by Command and in order to make volumes of sufficient size it is frequently necessary to run several volumes of the House of Commons series into one. When all the papers of a volume are missing the table of contents is bound with the preceding volume. In two or three of the volumes an octavo is bound with the quarto, but

in general the octavo volumes are separated from the quarto.

After the books are returned from the bindery they are turned over to the card department to be sent to the classifiers for Library of Congress analyticals. They are then shelved and when the cards are filed in the public catalog the Blue Books are in demand.

The Catalog of Parliamentary Papers, 1801-1900, and its Supplement, 1901-1910, published by King & Son, is of great assistance in locating material in the Blue Books. It would be a great help, though, if the number of the paper and the year were given in this catalog instead of the year only. Each item is numbered and placed in brackets which at first glance makes one think it is a Paper of Command.

Before drawing this to a close let me call to your attention that often a paper is called a Blue Book when it does not belong to the Parliamentary Papers but to the official publications which are issued by the official branches of the government such as the Home Office, the Admiralty and the Board of Trade. A monthly and quarterly check list of these is issued, similar to the Parliamentary Papers. Sometimes an official publication is made a Parliamentary Paper and in such cases the number of the paper is given in the check list.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL OPPORTUNITIES IN HORTICULTURE *

By MARJORIE F. WARNER, *Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.*

Horticultural bibliography has two important phases: (a) Study of works concerning the cultivation of fruits, flowers, and vegetables, and of plants in relation to landscape, constituting what we call horticultural literature; and (b) collection of data on the history or origins of the plants and processes of horticulture, whether in works of the preceding group, or gleaned from the most diverse sources—travel, biography, general history, manuscripts, old

newspapers, and what not—a form of research no less vital than the other, though less frequently undertaken by librarians, and requiring, moreover, selective and critical faculties of a very high order.

Bibliographical work in connection with horticulture has been greatly neglected. The most comprehensive bibliography of the literature is the third section of Séguier's "Bibliotheca botanica" (Lugduni Batavorum, 1740); not that this contains the largest number of titles, as there are

*Abridgment of paper.

others more extensive, but for his time, Séguier appears to cover most thoroughly all the literature of cultivated plants and plant culture, including not only gardening, but field crops and arboriculture. I believe there has been no attempt in modern times to cover the entire field of horticulture, though there are selected lists and partial bibliographies—by country, as Mariboe (*"Fortegnelse over Dansk Havebrugslitteratur fra 1546-1908."* Kjøbenhavn, 1909) on the Danish; Johnson (*"History of English gardening."* London, 1829), and Cecil (*"History of gardening in England."* London, 1895), on the English; Bailey (list of American horticultural books in *"Standard cyclopedia of horticulture,"* v. 3: pp. 1523-1562. New York, 1915) on the American; Dochnahl (*"Bibliotheca hortensis."* Nürnberg, 1861) on the German (including Austrian) literature;—by subjects, as landscape gardening, pomology, floriculture, etc.; but no single authority on the literature as a whole, nor anything whatever on some portions of it, although some others have been very competently treated.

Recent bibliographical work in this field has generally taken the form of researches into the history of cultivated plants, save in France and England, where it has also included critical study of books and authors, as well as the treatment of interesting and obscure phases of gardening history. In this country almost nothing has been done with horticultural literature, in the limited sense, prior to 1915, when L. H. Bailey's List of American horticultural books appeared in the *"Standard cyclopedia of horticulture,"* a big and useful undertaking, which will inevitably furnish the basis for the more critical bibliography, which it is to be hoped we may have in the near future.

Check List of American Horticultural Books—One of the most obvious opportunities, therefore, consists in bringing this list down to date, and amplifying it as to earlier titles and editions. As Professor Bailey himself is not making a supplement, this task is open to any library or librarian who will be responsible for it, and make the information accessible to others. It would

be a comparatively simple matter to turn the list into card form, which would make it possible to incorporate additions to date in one alphabet, and would also give opportunity for inclusion of critical notes and supplementary information which would be invaluable in the compilation of a more extended bibliography. Happily for us, American horticultural literature is sufficiently distinct, both as to period and as to materials and conditions of cultivation in this country, to enable us to treat it independently. With American publications eliminated, the remaining literature of horticulture seems to fall naturally into two groups: Modern European literature from the beginning of the nineteenth century; and earlier works coming down to the end of the eighteenth. We need hardly concern ourselves with these groups, however, as European horticultural literature, especially that of the last half century, is too voluminous to be satisfactorily handled save in European libraries, nor does it appear that we can do a great deal with the very old books, as we have too few for purposes of comparison.

Indexes—Indexes afford a wonderful chance for the bibliographer. Few American horticultural periodicals possess even tolerable annual indexes; at the present time I recall only one, now extinct, which has a really excellent one, i. e., *Garden and Forest*, and European journals are no better. Even the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, pre-eminent in many respects, is most ineffectively indexed, the total absence of authors' names being a serious defect when it comes to locating faulty or incomplete references, while the method of entering under subject varies from time to time, and is never adequate to all requirements. *Gartenflora*, which at times has had fairly good annual and even decennial indexes, varies so much from one volume to another that one cannot tell how to look for book reviews, personal notices, etc. Several valuable journals have indexes which are merely lists of titles, slightly altered to bring them under leading words, and examples of inadequate indexing might be multiplied

indefinitely. Of course, the great bulk of some of the series would make the cost of publishing a comprehensive index almost prohibitive, but if it were known that there was an adequate index in card form for some of these sets, there would be many inquiries for the information it might contain on various aspects of horticultural and botanical work. Whosoever would deserve well of posterity could hardly do better than compile a thorough index to the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, or the *Journal* of the French National Horticultural Society, or our own *Horticulturist* or *American Gardening*. Then, too, many of the publications of our state and local societies and boards of horticulture would be rendered more valuable by thorough indexes, especially for the earlier issues.

Rarities in Periodicals—One of the most difficult as well as one of the most fascinating opportunities is the collection of data on early American journals and societies. There are several horticultural journals, mostly very fragmentary it is true, which so far as I can discover have not been noted in any bibliography, and in some cases a single issue may be located in one library and another in a distant collection, so that no one knows exactly what or how much has ever been published. There have also been many reports and transactions of local societies, of which there is not the slightest record. So elusive is this kind of material that it is not safe to pass by a stray issue of any American report or journal, unless one absolutely knows it to be common. An interesting example of this kind is the *Magazine of Gardening and Botany*, of which vol. 1, no. 1, January, 1834, was published in Baltimore under the editorship of H. F. Dickehut. I have seen only this one issue and have never seen any allusion to either the journal or its editor. Again, I lately noted in a bibliography of Dr. C. C. Parry, a paper published in the *Utah Pomologist* for May, 1874, a periodical not included in L. H. Bailey's list of journals, though found in Bolton's "Catalogue of

scientific and technical periodicals" (Washington, 1897).

Societies Without Transactions—Here too we may mention the horticultural societies which appear to have published few or no reports, but are chiefly immortalized by printed addresses at annual meetings and fairs, etc., while their actual transactions, if any, were in all probability printed in local newspapers. Such was the case with the important society flourishing in New York from about 1824; the Pennsylvania and Maryland state societies started about 1830, and the New Haven county society in the forties, and even the Massachusetts Horticultural Society during the first decade or so after its establishment in 1829. Hence the record of what these various organizations did to stimulate the science and practice of horticulture in this country is chiefly to be sought in general agricultural journals or in local newspapers. Sometimes valuable information is found in very remote sources, as for instance, a letter by Robert Schomburgk on the horticultural societies of Philadelphia and New York, in the transactions of the Berlin gardening society in 1830. It would be useful to have even a bare list of the names of very local societies, like the Aiken (S. C.) fruit-growing society, which existed in 1859, on evidence of an address of that date by H. W. Ravenel; or the Scott county (Iowa) horticultural society, before which Dr. Parry gave a paper (noted in the bibliography above mentioned), which was printed in the *Western Weekly* of Davenport, February 21, 1874; while the history of some of these societies is likely to be as interesting as it is obscure.

Literature of the Seed and Nursery Trade—Apropos of rare and fugitive material, let me adjure you never to throw away trade catalogs of seed and nursery firms without consulting the Massachusetts Horticultural Society or the Library of the Department of Agriculture, both of which have in recent years been slowly and painfully collecting just such material as is constantly being destroyed, though perhaps not so recklessly at present as in

times past. Such catalogs may be of service under various circumstances, as (a) determining identity of new plants which have been exploited by the trade before receiving botanical recognition; (b) careless use of trade names, which makes it doubtful whether a plant sold and widely known under a given name is actually the botanical species entitled to that name; (c) interest in the date and place of notable advances in plant breeding, production of important hybrids, etc.; (d) origin and history of plants introduced into cultivation from a wild state or from other countries. The uncertainty surrounding the origin or introduction of some of our well-known cultivated plants is surprising, and there is always a chance that some item of information may have appeared in a trade catalog, long before it was taken up by the more enduring literature of the horticultural manuals, or even mentioned in periodicals.

Inasmuch, therefore, as the earliest notice of plants brought into cultivation often occurs in trade lists, and as the latter have in many cases utterly disappeared, it is particularly important that we, in indexing periodicals, should not fail to record plant novelties quoted from such catalogs, as well as the names of firms whose catalogs are mentioned; for instance the lists in *Allgemeine Gartenzeitung* of plants offered for sale by Deegen of Koes-tritz or Friedrich Adolph Haage, Jr., of Erfurt. The introduction of a given variety can often be traced to a certain firm, but there is sometimes great difficulty in discovering the exact date when it was first produced or distributed.

Biographical and Bibliographical Data—

One of the facts strongly emphasized in my experience is the difficulty of obtaining biographical and bibliographical data in connection with special subjects like horticulture. In case of persons thoroughly identified with the literature, one may expect to find all the essential data in horticultural reference books; but if, as frequently occurs, important contributions to horticultural knowledge are made by physi-

cians, members of the clergy or monastic orders, business men, or even legislators, it is necessary to call to our aid biographical or historical works dealing with the profession, the sect or occupation of the author. A case in point is that of Edward Sprague Rand, Jr., who wrote many floricultural treatises from about 1863 to 1884, when he lost his life in a steamboat disaster, although L. C. printed cards give the date of his death as 1897. The information given in horticultural journals is meager, but mentions Rand as a Boston lawyer, so one would probably be more likely to discover a good account of him in the records of the legal profession than those of gardening. On the other hand, general reference books of apparently remote interest often yield information on persons who are otherwise very elusive. Of course, one would naturally make use of local history, genealogies, and collected and individual biography, while there is a vast amount of material on the lives and work of authors, plant breeders and collectors, etc., in horticultural journals and reports, which should either be brought together in the course of regular indexing, or which might be made the object of special work in this direction—the data thus collected would be indispensable to the editor of a critical bibliography of horticulture, and a card index of such material would probably be frequently called upon to furnish information to investigators and authors in horticultural subjects. A very natural and desirable outcome of the quest for such data would moreover be the publication of biographical sketches of older, often almost unknown authors and horticulturists, after the fashion of the excellent biographies which have been published in *Le Jardin*, *Gardeners' Chronicle*, and *Garden*.

Historical Research—For historical research in the field of horticulture, actual treatises on the history of agriculture and gardening or of cultivated plants form but a small proportion of our sources. The trade literature has already been mentioned, and there is, of course, much to be

found in gardening and agricultural journals, but for the study of early American horticulture, one of the chief sources of information is found in newspaper files. Though difficult and tedious in the extreme, the search of local papers is sometimes rewarded by notes on experiments with crops, new and marvelous fruits and vegetables of local production, personal data, advertisements of seeds and "garden sass," which are not to be found elsewhere. The examination of manuscripts is still more difficult, but journals, letters, account books, and even legal documents may yield significant bits of gardening history, as exchange of seeds and plants (of great importance from the point of view of plant introduction and distribution), notes on climate in relation to vegetation, data on prices of seeds, tools and garden produce, or wages of garden labor, etc. Local history and natural history are also to be considered, as well as description and travel, biographies and published diaries and letters, to say nothing of the transactions of learned societies, which in early times covered a wide range of economic and practical topics, as those of the American Philosophical Society and Royal Society of London.

For early European work in plant introduction, besides the agricultural books, we turn to such travels in the Levant as Busbecq's "Epistolicae Turcicae" (Parisii, 1589), or Belon's "Observations de plusieurs singularitéz et choses mémorables trouvées en Grèce, Asie, Indée, Egypte, Arabie," etc. (Anvers, 1555), or to the letters of Peiresc ("Lettres de Peiresc, publiées par Ph. Tamesey de Larroque." Paris, 1886-98. 7 v.), the friend of Clusius and other naturalists of his day, who was zealous in the introduction of new plants at his estates in Provence.

Critical Work on Old Books—Unhappily the really old gardening books, especially English ones, seem to be in such demand from collectors that our agricultural libraries, with their modest funds, are not likely to compass many of them. A census of sixteenth and seventeenth century books

in the United States might reveal many choice volumes in private hands, while showing regrettable deficiencies in this line in our library collections. Many of these works, moreover, printed in times when labor was relatively cheaper than paper and ink, were issued in such small editions as to be today practically nonexistent. If there was any demand for a work, this naturally led to frequent reprints, and together with the common practice of anonymity, helps to explain the extensive production of plagiaries. It thus occurs that we rarely find two copies precisely alike of certain books, while on the other hand, similar or practically identical contents often masquerade under several different authors or titles. All these factors render it difficult, when we get references to some of these works, and even in handling the volumes themselves, to identify the author or original source of the work. If we could have access to all other publications on the subject for about the same period, the difficulty might sometimes be solved by comparison, but in the absence of the books themselves, we are glad of any clue to aid in identifying our titles and establishing their relationship to others. There is an article by R. P. Brotherston in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* (The carnation in French literature. Gard. Chron. III. 39: 97. F.17, 1906) giving an account of a very rare book: "Le Jardinage des oeillets," par L. B. (Paris, 1647) which I have been unable to locate in this country, but from this description it is evident that the "Traité des oeillets" in Pierre Morin's "Remarques nécessaires pour la culture des fleurs..." Nouvelle éd. (Lyon, 1686) is derived from the same source, if indeed not entirely taken from the earlier work. This is but a single instance of the utility of studies of this kind, although I am likewise deeply indebted to many similar ones which have been published in England and France, primarily from the literary or bibliographical standpoint, rather than from that of the scientific or practical horticulturist. This is not to say that practical and scientific knowledge do

not play an important part in such work, but merely to suggest the possibilities open to the bibliographer in the study of gardening books as books. And while we in this country have comparatively few of these critical old books to deal with, it is hardly an exaggeration to say that the majority of those we have present more or less serious difficulties. When the latter have been successfully cleared up, it is all the more important, therefore, that the results should not be lost; in case cards are to be printed, rather full explanatory notes may sometimes be given, but in many other cases the publication of a more extended bibliographical note is clearly advisable.

Editing—One field of activity, although not strictly bibliographical, which calls for a considerable degree of bibliographical insight and experience, is the editing, indexing and translating of the agricultural classics, which are essential to a knowledge of the history of plants under cultivation. The early Latin and Greek authors have been many times edited, and there are English versions of the "Geoponika" and "Scriptores rei rusticae," but there are many important writers down into the eighteenth century who are little known, partly because of their rarity and partly because they have not been exploited. Colerus ("Oeconomia ruralis et domestica." Wittembergae, 1597) and Hohberg ("Georgica curiosa." Nürnberg, 1687) are indeed rare; Herrera ("Obra de agricultura." Alcala de Henares, 1513) has not been translated save into Italian, although there are numerous editions, including a comparatively modern one ("Agricultura general." Madrid, 1818-19. 3 v.) in Spanish; and even the work of Crescenzi ("Opus ruralium commodorum." Augsburg, 1471. [Modern ed.] "Trattato della agricoltura. Ridotto a migliore lezione da Bartolomeo Sorio." Verona, 1851. 3 v.), which was richly represented among incunabula, and between 1500 and 1851 had possibly two score editions in Latin, French, Italian, and German, is comparatively little known. Even if all the wisdom of these early writers

had been condensed into the modern treatises, the individual flavor of their work cannot be thus transmitted, and without this our conception of the literature of agriculture and gardening is apt to be dry and dull. The rarity of these books is a strong argument for bringing them to wider notice, and while modern editions or complete English translations are in most cases impracticable, it would be inspiring if summaries of the portions on plants and cultivation could be published, with well-chosen and carefully translated extracts—a task which should appeal to some of you in whom a taste for languages is joined to the love of books.

In this connection we should also note the value and interest of material relating to gardening which may be excerpted from old books other than agricultural, and commonly supposed to have no bearing on the subject. An example of this kind recently appeared in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, being a translation with explanatory notes, by F. M. Graves ("On the walled garden." *Gard. Chron.* III. 65: 105-106. Mr. 8, 1919) from "Le Menagier de Paris," a late fourteenth century manuscript published by the Société des Bibliophiles in 1846. This suggests what might be done for American horticultural history by the publication in accessible journals of material on gardening to be found in books on American history and description of the colonial period, or to be gleaned from manuscript sources, etc. While the works from which coherent garden documents could be extracted are not very numerous, there are many fragmentary items suitable for interesting and useful notes on the horticulture of particular periods or localities, or special aspects of cultivation. The historical section of Miss Tabor's "Old-fashioned gardening" (New York, 1913) is a good illustration of the richness and interest of the data on American gardening which may be painstakingly collected from miscellaneous sources.

Conclusion—It is perhaps superfluous to suggest the two factors indispensable to such undertakings as I have outlined—(a)

the library worker with a passionate zeal for research and great persistence in the prosecution of aims which lie somewhat outside the range of everyday routine; and (b) the library sufficiently catholic and far-sighted to realize the advantages of bibliographical thoroughness and specialization. One cannot lightly recommend to already overburdened librarians tasks which involve considerable time, nor is it practicable for the average library to grant its assistants unlimited leisure for research which may seem unproductive so far as the library itself is concerned. But I would call attention to the fact that in this country most of the bibliographical work in the field of horticulture is not being done by those specially trained for that kind of work, but by the scientists. Are we essentially incompetent to handle it, or is it not rather through sheer inadvertence that we have overlooked the opportunity? Do not misunderstand me if I say in this connection that there is danger of dwelling

too much on coöperation and too little on specialization; the former too often aims only at visible and tangible results, and necessarily fails to take into account individual adaptations for peculiar lines of work. Let us therefore encourage the spirit of personal research along bibliographical lines, endeavoring to direct it into channels of ultimate usefulness, and by coördinating the work of individuals, make it as generally available as possible. It should be evident that a large fund of special personal qualifications in various departments of science and literature is a rich asset in any library, while as for individual rewards, I am convinced that the literature of agriculture and horticulture offers to librarians and bibliographers opportunities for monuments of scholarship no less dignified, even if less conspicuous, than some of those which have already been established by fellow librarians in general literature and history or in other sciences.

LIBRARIES AND READING AS AN AID TO MORALE

BY EDWARD L. MUNSON, *Colonel, General Staff, United States Army, Chief, Morale Branch*

Libraries and reading as an aid to the morale of troops have a value which the Morale Branch, on its organization, promptly recognized and set about to use as fully, systematically and efficiently as possible. Possessed, as it is, of intimate and accurate knowledge of the desires and needs of the soldier, it at once saw the

desirability of establishing as close a relation as practicable with the American Library Association, to the end that the latter might have all available information whereby it could function to full efficiency.

The Morale Branch believes that a proper library is far more than a mere collection of books. If suitably handled,